

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1 1. A method for previewing the result of a function's
2 application to an object using a processing system
3 comprising a pointing device and a display displaying a
4 movable pointer controlled by the pointing device, the
5 method comprising the steps of:
6 storing the object and function in the system;
7 displaying an icon representing the function on the
8 display;
9 outputting a preview generated by applying the function
10 to the object when the pointer is moved onto the icon; and
11 replacing the object with the result of the function's
12 application to the object.

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2 2. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the object
3 is a multimedia object.

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2 3. The method as claimed in claim 2 wherein the object
3 is an image or a layer.

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2 4. The method as claimed in claim 2 wherein the object
3 is a video.

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2 5. The method as claimed in claim 2 wherein the object
3 is a sound.

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2 6. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the
3 function applies an effect to the object.

1 7. The method as claimed in claim 6 wherein the
2 function applies an image effect to the object.

1 8. The method as claimed in claim 6 wherein the
2 function applies a video effect to the object.

1 9. The method as claimed in claim 6 wherein the
2 function applies a sound effect to the object.

1 10. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the
2 preview is output when the pointer is moved onto the icon
3 for a period of time.

1 11. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the
2 object is replaced with the application result of the
3 function to the object when an event is triggered.

1 12. The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein the
2 pointing device is a mouse.

1 13. The method as claimed in claim 12 wherein the
2 event is clicking the icon.

1 14. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the
2 preview is output by the display.

1 15. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the
2 processing system further comprises a speaker by which the
3 preview is output.

1 16. The method as claimed in claim 1 further
2 comprising the step of:
3 terminating outputting the preview when the pointer is
4 moved out of the icon.

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1 17. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the
2 application result replacing the object is the preview.